



**The Gospel of the Savior: An Analysis of P.oxy.840  
And Its Place in the Gospel Traditions of Early  
Christianity (Texts and Editions for New  
Testament Study, Vol. 1)**

*Michael J. Kruger*

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# The Gospel of the Savior: An Analysis of P.oxy.840 And Its Place in the Gospel Traditions of Early Christianity (Texts and Editions for New Testament Study, Vol. 1)

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## **The Gospel of the Savior: An Analysis of P.oxy.840 And Its Place in the Gospel Traditions of Early Christianity (Texts and Editions for New Testament Study, Vol. 1)** Michael J. Kruger

This volume is the first complete analysis of the apocryphal gospel fragment P.Oxy. 840 since its initial discovery nearly a century ago. The fragment recounts a dispute over ritual purity between Jesus and a Pharisaic chief priest in the temple. After an examination of prior research, this work explores the various palaeographical and historical questions raised by this apocryphal story and also offers a new Greek edition and English translation. In particular, P.Oxy. 840's controversial descriptions of ritual purity practices in Herod's temple are evaluated in light of what is known of first-century Judaism. After comparing the text with similar passages in the canonical gospels, the origins of this non-canonical story are traced to second-century Jewish-Christian groups that shared its theological and polemical thrust.

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